

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 839

By Cobb C

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the firefighters of the Unionville Volunteer Fire Department on their 25th anniversary and salute them for their meritorious service to the Unionville community.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective well-being, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, many Tennesseans continue this time-honored tradition of service to others as firefighters, dedicating their time and efforts to aiding those facing emergency situations; and

WHEREAS, the communities of the State of Tennessee are fortunate to enjoy the protection of their firefighters, many of whom are volunteers; and

WHEREAS, the brave individuals who valiantly serve in the Unionville Volunteer Fire Department are to be saluted as they celebrate the 25th anniversary of its establishment; and

WHEREAS, the Unionville Volunteer Fire Department has been a trailblazing fire department, enjoying the distinction of being the first volunteer fire department in Bedford County; since it established operations in 1983, six other county volunteer fire departments have begun operations in the counties surrounding Bedford; and

WHEREAS, at the time of the Unionville Volunteer Fire Department's establishment, there were twenty-two firefighters on the roster who were courageously led by Chief Gale Barber, with Ricky King and David Beasley serving as Assistant Chiefs, and Jerry Smith, Phillip Douglas, Jimmy Clark, and Bill Beasley serving as Captains; and

WHEREAS, these individuals daily faced the rigors of corporal imperilment in order to protect those whom they so selflessly serve; and

WHEREAS, the Unionville Volunteer Fire Department has come a long way from its humble beginnings, growing from a two-bay fire station to the eight-bay fire station of today; the department started its operations with a twenty-year-old, hand-me-down military pumper and now boasts a fleet consisting of a 1967 Jeep brush truck, a 1982 Sutphen pumper, a 1998 Central States pumper, and a 2007 Central States pumper/tanker; and

WHEREAS, the fine people of the Unionville Volunteer Fire Department will celebrate their 25th anniversary with a dinner on March 8, 2008; it will be a time to remember the past, give thanks for the present, and look forward to the future; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that this General Assembly should pause to recognize those firefighters who have dedicated themselves to the service of their communities and to salute these exceptional public servants and human beings for their worthy service and the accomplishment of their high purposes; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that that we hereby take this opportunity to congratulate the firefighters of the Unionville Volunteer Fire Department on the occasion of their 25th anniversary, applaud these courageous firefighters who risk their safety to safeguard their neighbors and to wish them continued success in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.